

CLEAN DELAWARE HEARING 11-20-19

Clean Delaware is asking DNREC for permission to expand their disposal of septic tank pump out water on the fields next to their Milton facility.

My first question to DNREC is has Clean Delaware corrected their 2017 wastewater violations and what fines were imposed. *my second question*
why have no well test data been included by the applicant

The reason Clean Delaware has been restricted over the years to using only a portion of their property is the contamination of neighboring private wells in the Russel, Collins and Slim Street neighborhood next to their fields.

Before any expansion of spray fields is granted at Clean Delaware, extensive private well testing of the contaminated wells in the Russel, Collins and Slim Street neighborhood should be done to determine if those wells have recovered. A complete health assessment of the residents and an environmental impact study should also be completed. If these private wells have not recovered, a public water system, paid for by Clean Delaware, should be installed in this neighborhood. As a result of widespread well contamination property values in this neighborhood have declined.

DNREC needs to evaluate the impact of the Artesian chicken wastewater spray Field G, directly across the street from the Clean Delaware facility and the impact will it have on neighboring private wells.

When Artesian starts spraying 2 million gallons a day of chicken wastewater on Field G it will travel under Issacs Road and mix with the already elevated nitrate levels at the Clean Delaware site. The elevated nitrate plume will be pushed into the Russel, Collins and Slim Street private wells. An impact study needs to be done to assess the further damage that could be done to these private wells.

DNREC would like the public to believe that Clean Delaware and Artesian are separate issues but they are not and the combination of the two together will have a detrimental impact on already contaminated private wells.

One further observation. After calls to almost every private septic pump out company in Sussex County, I could not find one, except Clean Delaware that dumps their untreated septic pump out water onto fields next to private wells. Of the companies I personally surveyed all took their wastewater to a municipal or county wastewater treatment plant for property treatment and disposal.

Clean Delaware has had a cheap way of disposing of human wastewater for many years at the expense of the environment and private drinking wells. Clean Delaware is one of, if not the only septic pump out company in Delaware that is allowed to dump, basically untreated septic waste water onto agricultural fields.

Instead of allowing Clean Delaware to expand their operation at the expense of public health, why doesn't DNREC revoke the Clean Delaware wastewater disposal permit and require Clean Delaware to take their wastewater, like other septic pump out companies to a municipal or county wastewater treatment facility for proper treatment

and disposal? Isn't DNREC's mandate to protect public health over corporate profit? In this case public health and the environment would be better served by terminating Clean Delaware's disposal permit.

Anthony Scarpa
Keep Our Wells Clean
Milton, DE
908-963-9588